

Emancipation Day, p.8



Kyla's Dog Day, p.16

Greenbelt Anticipates Return Of Career Firefighters in February

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

This month Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad will be fully staffed with career firefighters for the first time since they were pulled on June 30, 2024. City officials now anticipate Greenbelt will also celebrate the return of career firefighters, likely in February.

“Fire and EMS services remain a top priority for the City of Greenbelt. Since the staffing announcement earlier in 2024, we have continued to advocate for the restoration of full staffing at our local fire stations to ensure timely and reliable emergency response for all residents,” City Manager Josué Salmerón told the News Review. “Following my recent meeting with senior leadership at Prince George’s County Fire/



PHOTO COURTESY BERWYN HEIGHTS VFD

Berwyn Heights firefighters were dispatched to fight a house fire in the 7200 block of Mandan Road in Greenbelt on October 17. The station is expected to once again be fully staffed by the end of this month.

EMS Department, I am pleased to share encouraging updates regarding recruitment and staffing See **FIREFIGHTERS**, page 15

Increased Need, Stopped SNAP Benefits, Food Cuts Hit Greenbelt

by Ashna Balroop

In Greenbelt, a community food distribution by the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program (GAIL), in conjunction with the nonprofit Shabach! Ministries on October 16, had a turnout that encompassed three car lines and traffic that stretched along Crescent Road with hundreds of people. This was representative of the community’s current need, said Greenbelt resident Robert Goldberg-Strassler, who launched a nonprofit to fight hunger.

“I’ve never seen a line that long ever, in fact, it’s typically one line,” Goldberg-Strassler said. The current government shutdown, during which many federal workers are unpaid, has now surpassed 40 days, making it the longest in history.

SNAP benefits officially expired on November 1 because of

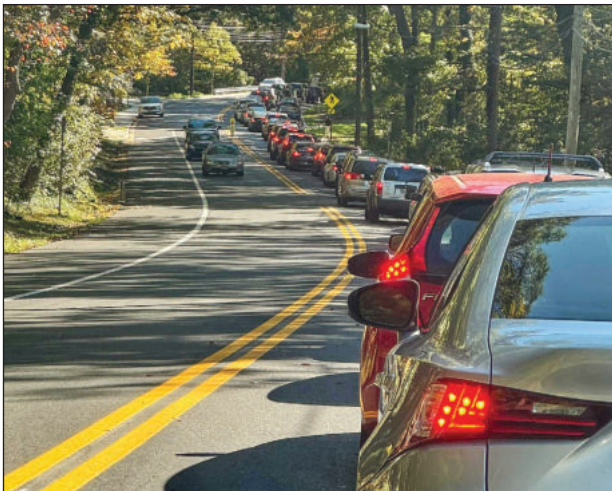


PHOTO BY FLORY LIETZ

A food distribution line stretches along Crescent Road on October 16.

Department of Human Services.

The increased need comes at a time when GAIL, which provides a monthly food distribution in Greenbelt, is bracing for less food from the Capital Area Food Bank. “The Mobile Market Program, as we have known it, will discontinue in December,” said Christal Batey, the assistant director of GAIL. Starting in January, GAIL will no longer operate as one of the food bank’s

mobile market sites, which distribute fresh produce to neighborhoods in the Washington, D.C., region, Batey said. “The city will

See **FOOD NEED**, page 6

NASA Warned to Halt Goddard Closures; But Building 11 Is Next

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Monday, November 10, Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), ranking Democrat on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, sent a letter to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Acting Administrator Sean Duffy demanding that NASA “halt any and all laboratory, facility and building closure and relocation activities at Goddard as well as the relocation,

disposal, excessing or repurposing of any specialized equipment or mission-related capabilities, hardware and systems, and it must do so now.” Lofgren stated NASA must respond in writing within 24 hours to confirm all such activities have been put on hold. In addition, Lofgren demanded a full accounting within seven days of the damage inflicted thus far and expressed her intent to demand an investigation by the NASA Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Lofgren said the closure of laboratories and facilities puts NASA missions at risk of delay or failure and NASA must ensure continuing operation of the facilities at the Goddard campus, “especially work on the Roman Space Telescope.” “NASA made a grave error by failing to properly disclose its changing plans

for Goddard to the Committee [and] ... in a requested briefing, ... failed to mention that an accelerated evacuation of additional facilities would occur within just eight days. NASA compounded its error by taking advantage of a government shutdown to rapidly accelerate the timeline for the Goddard moves while broadening their scale and breadth to a degree that risks drastically negative consequences for agency scientific capabilities. This all must end now. NASA needs to stop what it is doing at Goddard, explain itself to Congress and convincingly justify its actions before it can even think about continuing to move forward,” said Lofgren.

See **GODDARD**, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, November 17 7:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, November 19 No Council Meeting – National League of Cities City Summit (Salt Lake City, Utah)

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.



PHOTO BY DERMOT KELLY

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, whose primary funding source is the NASA Science budget

The Shutdown’s Impact on One Greenbelt Family, 41 Days In

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Monday, 41 days and two-and-a-half missed paychecks into the longest government shutdown on record, a Greenbelt resident and single mother described how the current political stalemate has been impacting her. She is a federal employee, and she asked that we withhold her name out of fear of reprisal for speaking to the press.

She’s been through four government shutdowns, through sequestrations and bailouts, but this is her first as a parent. “Now it definitely feels different being a

single mom with responsibilities,” she told the News Review. In the past, being furloughed and having delayed pay didn’t have the same impact. “It was just me. I was riding bikes,” she recalls of the forced time out of the office. “Yes, I would have liked six weeks off to take a break,” she says of this shutdown, “but the mental toll, as you lose confidence,” is huge, she says. “You know you did everything right to work hard and get a good job and be responsible but it’s out of

See **SHUTDOWN**, page 6



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

Governor Wes Moore poses with the News Review during his visit to Greenbelt on Veterans Day.

Letters to the Editor

To the Candidates

On behalf of our community, I extend heartfelt congratulations to each of you who ran for Greenbelt City Council. Your dedication, passion and willingness to serve our city are deeply appreciated. Running for public office requires courage, hard work and a commitment to making a difference – and each of you demonstrated these qualities throughout your campaign.

Regardless of the election’s outcome, your participation has strengthened our democratic process and given residents the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about Greenbelt’s future. Your ideas, energy and vision have helped inspire civic pride and community involvement.

Thank you for your time, effort and service to our city. We celebrate your contributions and

look forward to continuing the important work of building a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable Greenbelt together.

With sincere appreciation and best wishes,

Matthew Inzeo

Voting’s Hard Choices

It’s always difficult to vote in Greenbelt ... because we have too many good candidates. When I consider everyone’s credentials, qualifications, positions and interests, it’s very hard to know whom to cross out. When I want to vote someone new onto council, I have to decide which of the incumbents to drop, and that’s not an easy decision. This is a good thing to have to complain about, but I just wanted to say that I’m sure I’m not alone in having a hard time making a selection

See **LETTERS**, page 12

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Bugonia

In this black comedy from director Yorgos Lanthimos, two conspiracy-obsessed young men (Jesse Plemons and Aidan Delbis) kidnap the high-powered CEO (Emma Stone) of a major company, convinced that she is an alien intent on destroying planet Earth.

Nuremberg

As the Nuremberg trials are set to begin, a U.S. Army psychiatrist (Rami Malek) gets locked in a dramatic psychological showdown with accused Nazi war criminal Hermann Göring (Russell Crowe). Said critic Collin Garbarino of *WORLD*, “The Nazis aren’t any different from you or me. They were evil because they were human, and we fool ourselves if we think that 80 years later sin no longer crouches at our own doors.”

Blue Moon

Richard Linklater’s *Blue Moon* tells the story of legendary lyricist Lorenz Hart (Ethan Hawke) bravely facing the future as his professional and private life unravel at the opening night party for his former partner’s hit show *Oklahoma!* By the time this night is over, Hart will have confronted both a world that no longer values his talent and the seeming impossibility of love.

The Room with Greg Sestero Live

Join *The Room* star Greg Sestero for a special screening of the 2003 timeless tale of love and betrayal that became a cult phenomenon.

Wicked

The untold story of the witches of Oz stars Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba, misunderstood because of her unusual green skin, who has yet to discover her true power, and Ariana Grande as Glinda, a popular young woman, gilded by privilege and ambition, who has yet to discover her true heart. Following an encounter with *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, their friendship reaches a crossroads and their lives take very different paths. Glinda’s unflinching desire for popularity sees her seduced by power, while Elphaba’s determination to remain true to herself, and to those around her, will have unexpected and shocking consequences on her future.

Wicked: For Good

Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo), now demonized as *The Wicked Witch of the West*, lives in exile, hidden within the Ozian forest while continuing her fight for the freedom of Oz’s silenced animals and desperately trying to expose the truth she knows about *The Wizard* (Jeff Goldblum). Glinda, meanwhile, has become the glamorous symbol of Goodness for all of Oz, living at the palace in Emerald City and reveling in the perks of fame and popularity. Under the instruction of *Madame Morrible* (Michelle Yeoh), Glinda is deployed to serve as an effervescent comfort to Oz, reassuring the masses that all is well under the rule of *The Wizard*. As Glinda prepares to marry Prince Fiyero (Olivier Jonathan Bailey), she is haunted by her separation from Elphaba. She attempts to broker a conciliation between Elphaba and *The Wizard*, but those efforts will fail, driving Elphaba and Glinda only further apart. The aftershocks will transform Boq (Ethan Slater) and Fiyero forever, and threaten the safety of Elphaba’s sister, Nessarose (Marissa Bode), when a girl from Kansas comes crashing into all their lives. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, Glinda and Elphaba will need to come together one final time. With their singular friendship now the fulcrum of their futures, they will need to truly see each other, with honesty and empathy, if they are to change themselves, and all of Oz, for good.

Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
NOVEMBER 14th - 20th

Bugonia (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (120 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:45 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Mon. 2:45 PM (OC)
Wed. 5:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sun. 2:15 PM
Tues. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

Nuremberg (PG-13)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (132 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:15 PM (OC)
Tues. 7:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 4:50 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 4:45 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 5:00 PM
Mon. 1:45 PM, 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 4:50 PM

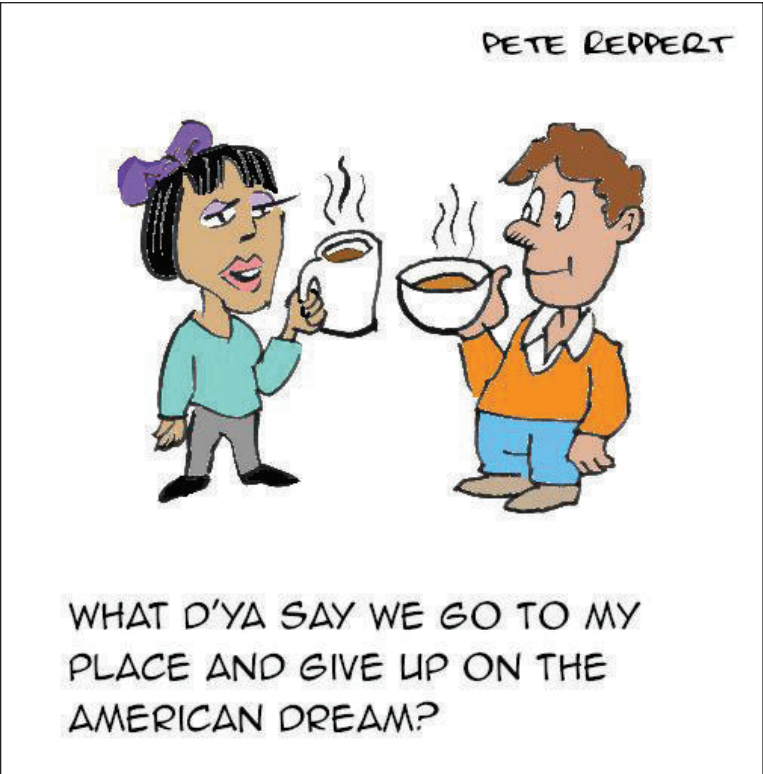
Blue Moon (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (100 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 3:25 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM
Sun. 11:00 AM (OC)
Mon. 12:25 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 3:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Tues. 5:45 PM

The Room with Greg Sestero Live (R) (2003) (99 mins)
Doors open at 8PM - meet & greet and post-screening Q&A
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 9:00 PM

Storytime on Screen - Free!
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Wicked + Wicked: For Good
Double Feature
(PG) (2025) (310 mins)
Catch both movies for the price of one! 13 minute intermission
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 6:00 PM



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

Greenbelt Library’s regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, November 14, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14684063.

Wednesday, November 19, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14907319.

Storytime on Screen

Monday, November 17, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5, the Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with PGCMLS, is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14698052.

Pet Celebration

Wednesday, November 19, 3 p.m., ages 5+ (Elementary/Teen/Adults). The Greenbelt Best Friend Fest will celebrate the pets of Greenbelt, past and present. Folks can learn about the history of pets in the community, add their pet to a digital Greenbelt pet archive, and showcase their pets in a talent show. Presented in collaboration with University of Maryland College of Information (INFO) and Center for Archival Futures (CAFe). Note that pets are only allowed in the designated area for this event. Register at pgcmls.info/event/15070336.

STEM Fun

Tuesday, November 18, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Dive into the world of science, technology, engineering and math with fun, hands-on experiments and activities. Explore Mayan Math through interactive challenges that spark curiosity and creativity. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14687612.

Golden Age Club Meeting Nov. 19

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the Community Center, Room 201.

The following is the schedule for the rest of November.

November 19, November Birthday Potluck Luncheon. The Golden Age Birthday Potluck Luncheon Committee is presenting the November birthday luncheon. Bring the same dish or a dish similar to what you brought last month or bring something new. It can be a main dish, side dish or dessert, but you must bring something. If you are a birthday celebrant, be ready to tell your story.

November 26 – No meeting (Thanksgiving Eve)

Trash Talking

The City of Greenbelt and the Green Team will host Zoom sessions for information and questions on the new payment program beginning January 2026 for households receiving city trash collection, on Saturday, November 15 at 10 a.m. and Tuesday, November 18 at noon. The sessions will begin with a presentation of Save As You Throw for about 15 minutes, followed by Q&A. The Zoom links will be on the City of Greenbelt website at greenbeltmd.gov (search Save As You Throw Program).



Volunteer to Drive For GIVES

Want to meet fellow Greenbelters and help them out at the same time? The Greenbelt Inter-generational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) always needs volunteers, especially drivers. Choose when and where you will drive (within the 10-mile limit) and if you are also willing and able to help with carrying groceries or other packages.

To be a driver for GIVES, one needs to be a resident of Greenbelt, be a member of GIVES (membership is free), have a valid Maryland license and insurance, and pass a background check. For information or an application, call 301-507-6580 or visit givesgreenbelt.org.

Class Plus Giveaways

Favor’s Table presents Financial Literacy Class; Wealth Creation, Protection and Wealth Transfer on Saturday, November 15 from 3:30 to 4 p.m. at 6215 Greenbelt Road, Room 205. This is the tall building next to McDonald’s. The class is for adults and those who have not attended the class before – new people only. Text 202-468-2049 to sign up by Friday, November 14. Confirm attendance to receive a bag of food at the end of class. The bags will contain food, clothes, bras and shoes.

Greenbelt Chess Club Meeting November 18

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, November 18 at the Youth Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to their mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Artist’s Talk With Julia Gould



PHOTO BY JULIA GOULD

Meet Me in Our Tree by Julia Gould, one of the paintings at the Greenbelt Community Center Art Gallery

Meet artist Julia Gould in the Community Center Art Gallery at 6 p.m. on Friday, November 14 for an informal talk about her current exhibition, *The Fall*, hosted by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program.

With intense luminosity, rich detail and emotional charge, Gould’s paintings range from still lifes to evocative figurative compositions. “Within my paintings,” she said, “the natural world bends, expands and pulls apart from itself, forming stages for symbolic acts. ... In some works, animals trample through my childhood garden. In other works, I find myself in conversation with Narcissus, Daphne, Eve and the Serpent.”

Guests are encouraged to RSVP for this free event at sugeni.us/e4w9. The exhibition is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday through November 21. For more information, email ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov.

Sparkle Mart Volunteer Call

High school students and adults are invited to volunteer at Greenbelt’s annual juried Art and Craft Fair, Sparkle Mart! A cornerstone of Greenbelt Recreation’s Winter Lights Festival, this show takes place at the Community Center on Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, December 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with setup starting on December 5. Sign up online for shifts at sugeni.us/e5FG.



Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will hold a star party at the Greenbelt Observatory near Northway Fields on Saturday, November 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Visitors can come into the observatory dome to watch the telescope operators or bring their own telescopes. The event will be cancelled if it’s clouded over, raining or snowing.



Astronomical Society Meeting November 20

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will meet Thursday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 114. ASG member Conrad Terrill will give an overview of the City of Greenbelt Observatory and lead a discussion regarding updating the observatory equipment. The meeting is free and open to the public – all are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Free Concert Sunday

Greenbelt Community Orchestra will give a free concert on Sunday, November 16 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center gym. The program will have a French theme and will include Gershwin’s *American in Paris*, Bizet’s *Carmen* suites and a ballet suite by Cécile Chaminade. All are welcome. The concert is expected to last about 90 minutes with a short intermission.



Greenbelt Park Trails, Campground Open

The campground at Greenbelt Park is open during the government shutdown, as are park trails (except for a portion of the Perimeter Trail) and the Sweetgum Picnic Area. No more Saturday campfires will be held.

Art Share Friday

Artists of all experience levels are invited to participate in a free Art Share from 7 to 8 p.m. on Friday, November 14 at the Community Center, Room 109. Bring one to three pieces in any medium for discussion at this monthly meetup. This activity is intended for teens and adults. Registration is not required, but participants are encouraged to sign up to receive communications about this series at sugeni.us/eZ34.

CHEARS Free Vegan Thanksgiving Event

Join CHEARS for a Great Food Transition (GFT) Thanksgiving event with a vegan potluck and pumpkin co-learning opportunity. Bring a vegan dish ready to share. Learn to make delicious pumpkin pies and also how to save the pumpkin seeds for eating or planting next year. Pies will be high-health and low-environmental impact, using all plant-based ingredients.



Scan to learn more.

Join CHEARS on Monday, November 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Community Center kitchen. Come at 5:30 to help set up if desired. Registration required at lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/t522ev4.

The program is free; donations are accepted.

Art Reception Nov. 21 At Greenbelt Art Center

Eileen Murray-Kraft’s Art Reception, Viewpoint In A Circle will take place Friday, November 21 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments.

More Community Events throughout the paper.

Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television

November 2025

Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 • Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

Featured Productions

- Coverage of the Emancipation Day Poetry Reading and Prince George's Choral Society Performance
- New, original animations from Mister Geo's Digital Animation Class and Homeschool Animation Class!
- All-new episodes of original live music showcase - Music From the New Deal Cafe!

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

TH 11/13	FRI 11/14	SAT 11/15	SUN 11/16	
The Bachelor & the Bad Actress 7 - 9pm All-original acoustic duo featuring Joseph Swelterpants and Hillary	D’Vibe & Conga 8 - 11pm Blues, rock, funk group from Bowie, Md., playing classic rock, reggae & R&B	POETRY OPEN MIC, 11a - 1pm Featuring Henry Crawford Zydeco Jed 8 - 11pm East Coast roots band blending many influences thru originals & covers	Grateful Sunday featuring JDCB 6 - 8pm With guests Andrew Ellinghaus (of Better Off Dead) & Katy Gaughan	
MON 11/17	TUES 11/18	WED 11/19	TH 11/20	New Deal Cafe
REEL AND MEAL 6:30 - 9pm A monthly film series exploring social issues	NDC Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 6 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6p Show us your talents!	PUB QUIZ 7 - 9pm Come out and test your knowledge from Aardvarks to Zymurgy	Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30pm All skill levels are welcome!	DON'T FORGET TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS! That's the only way we pay them and we want them back!

*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on “ABOUT”, then “BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW.”

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Obituaries

Bonnie Staughton



Bonnie Staughton with one of her beloved horses

On December 29, 2024, longtime Greenbelt resident Boneta “Bonnie” Sue Staughton died of natural causes. Born in Nashville, Tenn., on August 3, 1947, Bonnie moved with her family to College Park in 1950 and then to East Pines near Hyattsville in 1952. The family moved once more in 1958, this time to Beltsville, where they lived on enough land to support horses and where Bonnie received her first horse called Thunder.

Bonnie attended High Point High School, where she met Harry Staughton, who would become her husband, and graduated in 1965. They were married in 1971 and enjoyed a happy life together for the next 53 years. Bonnie worked as a medical transcriptionist at Providence Hospital in Northeast D.C. and then at Doctors Hospital in Lanham until she retired.

The couple moved to Greenbelt in 1971, first to a GHI home on Plateau Place and then, in 1976, to a GHI home on Hillside Road. Bonnie and Harry spent the next 51 years living in Greenbelt where Bonnie’s favorite activities included the Christmas Craft Festival, shows in the Community Center, the Farmers Market and, most of all, the Labor Day Festival book sale.

She loved animals, particularly horses and cats. Bonnie owned a number of horses through the years, all Arabians, including Chessie and Mystery. There was always a cat or two or three in the house.

Bonnie is survived by her husband Harry and her sister Annette, who lives in Maine. She will be missed by all who knew her, especially her loyal friends who shared a love of horses.

Donald Mac Wirick



A portrait of Mac Wirick, painted by his wife Mary Griffin Wirick

Donald “Mac” Wirick of Greenbelt died on October 15, 2025, surrounded by loving family. Born on November 10, 1941, he grew up in Fort Wayne, Ind., where he graduated from North Side High School and from Indiana University with a master’s degree in political science. The Peace Corps sent him to Thailand to teach middle school English

from 1966-67. This introduction to the international community shaped his life. Returning to the U.S., he found like-minded friends in the International Education Department at Indiana University (Bloomington).

In 1972 he married Mary Griffin. They set off for three more years in Thailand, where, with a Fulbright-Hays fellowship, Mac did field research and wrote his doctoral dissertation, *Primary School Dropouts in Northeast Thailand: a Study of Student, Parent and Teacher Attitudes* (1977). The Wirick family, now with two children, moved to 13 Court Ridge in Greenbelt in 1981. Mac worked in Washington, D.C. at Peace Corps headquarters and the Departments of Education and Energy.

Mac coached his children’s soccer teams and shot the starter gun at their Greenbelt Swim Team meets. He gardened in Greenbelt community garden plots with friend John Henry Jones. He served on the GHI board of directors from the mid-1980s through the early 1990s and taught English for immigrants with Betty Sonneveldt at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in the evenings.

From 1999 to 2019 Mac and Mary gardened and kept bees and chickens in Shepherdstown, W.V.

Mac lived and taught self-sufficiency, from the frugal postwar 1940s through creative resourcing during Covid. While he and Mary homeschooled Reed and Meadow, he gardened and canned, raising much of his family’s food through the years and sharing his skills with others. Mac loved a fresh tomato: he was known for his 25-year quest to breed a Mac heirloom tomato.

As aging recapitulates youth, he was ever inclined to find a treasure in the trash, to dig in the dirt or sit in the corner with his nose in a book, to make friends with every dog he passed, rescue an injured bird or study a bee

colony as long as it would stay. Mac’s world view and compassion are a deep legacy to his family and community.

Mac is survived by his wife, Mary Griffin Wirick; son Reed (Laura) Wirick of San Diego, Calif.; daughter Meadow (Tim) Platt of Greenbelt; and six grandchildren, Abigail, James, Griffin, Rose, Samuel and Benjamin Mac. Donations are welcome in his name to the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, 550 Crescent Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or tinyurl.com/GreenbeltAnimalShelter or to Hedgesville Hounds Dog Rescue via PayPal at tinyurl.com/HedgesvilleHounds.

Elizabeth Balcer-Kubiczek



Elizabeth Balcer-Kubiczek
“We are not content to pass away entirely from the scenes of our delight; we would leave, if but in gratitude, a pillar and a legend” – Robert Louis Stevenson

Elizabeth Krystyna Balcer-Kubiczek died peacefully on October 24, 2025, at Gilchrist in Towson, Md. She was a remarkable woman who was known for her quick wit, humor, intelligence and thoughtfulness. Elizabeth’s life was defined by her many accomplishments and enduring passions.

Born on May 21, 1942, in Warsaw, Poland, Elizabeth made

See OBITUARIES, page 12

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704

301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for

Worship & Sunday School

at 10:00 AM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

We Are an Open and Affirming Church

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

Our condolences to the family, friends and former students of Elizabeth Balcer-Kubiczek, as well as those who loved her garden, on her recent passing.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Donald “Mac” Wirick, who died October 15. Mac was an active member of the Greenbelt Garden Club and the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center and a Greenbelt Animal Shelter volunteer.

Condolences also to the family and friends of Boneta (Bonnie) Sue Staughton, a 51-year resident of Greenbelt, who died on December 29, 2024. She will be especially missed by those who shared her love of horses.

Thanks to all veterans for their service, recognized on Tuesday, Veterans Day. Greenbelt’s ceremony was honored with the presence of Maryland Governor Wes Moore and First Lady Dawn Moore, as well as County Executive Aisha Braveboy, Maryland State Senator Alonzo Washington, Prince George’s County Councilmember Ingrid Watson and Edward Rothstein, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

“Until the reality of equality between man and woman is fully established and attained, the highest social development of mankind is not possible.” – ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Community Center Room 114

15 Crescent Rd

cathcomgreenbelt.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!

For ZOOM link:

[CCG1985+owneregroups.io](https://ccg1985+owneregroups.io)

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Living Generously in a World that Holds Back

The Bible Says...

Thank You & God Bless You Veterans!

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold"

Psalms 18:2

Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

November 16, 2025, at 3 p.m.

What Does Justice Demand?

Anthony Jenkins, Rev. Anastassia Zinke with Worship Associate Jim Flaherty

Justice is an integral part of forming Beloved Community. In these times, when authoritarianism is rising and we fear that we do not have equal protection under the law, many of us are weighing various risks with the compelling demand to show up for justice. Let us consider what meeting this moment looks like for each of us.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, November 17 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order

Roll Call

Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge

Petitions and Requests

Consent Agenda

* Committee Reports

* Advisory Planning Board Report #2025-03—Traffic Calming Study: Greenbelt Center City

* Advisory Planning Board Report #2025-04—Hanover Parkway Traffic Calming Needs

* Advisory Committee on Education Report - Approval of up to \$9,994 Grants for Emergency Food Assistance Programs

* Meetings

* Appointment to Advisory Boards and Committees

* Employee Special Holiday

* Authorization for City Manager to Approve Computer Replacement and Equipment Purchases

Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

Minutes

LEGISLATION

- Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Fees and Operating Procedures for EV Charging Stations at the Municipal Building

OTHER BUSINESS

- Parking Regulations for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Municipal Building

- Approval of the Economic Development Strategic Plan

- Legislative Support Services Contracts Approval

- Council Liaison Assignments for Advisory Groups

- Charter Review Task Force Nominations

- Stop Sign Camera RFP Update

- Council Reports

- Council Activities

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

CURRENT GAIL PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs **FREE** of charge. For more information, email Brendy Maddox at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (202) 670-6497.

- **OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- **DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- **NAVIGATING DEMENTIA CARE FOR CAREGIVERS** in partnership with the University of Maryland: November 3, 10, and 17 (in-person), November 5, 12, 19 (Virtual)
- **FREE MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION** Greenbelt Residents Only. First time participants must provide proof of residency, state-issued ID, birth certificate (or copy) for each child.

HOLIDAY FOOD BOX GIVEAWAY

WITH INGRID WATSON & GREENBELT CARES

Thursday, November 20, 1-3pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Road

This month's Free Produce Distribution is our annual holiday food box. In partnership with Prince George's County Council Member Ingrid Watson. No reservation required. Food boxes will be distributed on a first come, first served basis and while supplies last.

For more information, contact Bria Archie at BAArchie@co.pg.md.us or (301) 952-3094.

Thanksgiving Turkey & Meal Giveaway

Senator Alonzo T. Washington and District 22 Delegates In partnership with Baldor Specialty Foods and Christian Life Center

THANKSGIVING TURKEY & MEAL GIVEAWAY

Saturday, November 22, 10am-12pm

Christian Life Center, 5600 Taylor Rd, Riverdale, MD

Senator Alonzo T. Washington and District 22 Delegates, in partnership with Baldor Specialty Foods and Christian Life Center, are providing a Thanksgiving Turkey & Meal Giveaway. First come, first serve while supplies last.

Registration Required. Register at <https://wkf.ms/3tax144>.

GOBBLE WOBBLE

Thursday, November 27 at 9 am

Buddy Attick Park Lake (Starts at Youth Center, 99 Centerway)

Join us for Greenbelt's Annual Gobble Wobble Family Fun Run & Walk, a Thanksgiving morning community tradition. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. Participants meet at the Greenbelt Youth Center and the course takes them on the Buddy Attick Park lake path. Get some exercise before your Thanksgiving feast! Participants receive a Gobble Wobble shirt. Medals awarded to top finishers and medals for youth.

COST: \$20/person, \$70 family 4-pack. Pick up race packet Wednesday, November 26 from 9am-8pm at the Youth Center. **DAY OF RACE COST:** \$25/person, \$90 family 4-pack.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/gobblewobble25?r=r>.

CONTACT: Patrick Mullen at pmullen@greenbeltmd.gov or by phone at (240) 542-2188.

SPONSORS: Greenbelt Babe Ruth Baseball, McCarl Dental Group, Greenbelt COOP, Town Center Realty & Associates, Inc. **Thank you, sponsors!**

MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 17-21

Tuesday, November 18 at 7pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, On the Agenda: Honoring Reparations Fighters, Assessment of Town Hall, Approval of Report Outline, December Writing Meetings, Discussion of PIN Report - Closed Session

Wednesday, November 19, **NO MEETING - NLC CITY SUMMIT**

Wednesday, November 19 at 6:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, On the Agenda: Council Liaison Updates, Discussion on Draft APB Bylaws

Thursday, November 20 at 7pm, **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, On the Agenda: Review of PSAC October Scams/Fraud Presentations, Department's Community Policing Within Context of Recent Shootings/Police Community Meeting, Annual Reports, Review of Department Submitted Updated General Orders, Consideration to Renaming of PSAC

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE		
Fall 2025-2026		
Week	Location	Holiday
November 17-21	Woodland Hills	
November 24-28	Lakeside	Thanksgiving November 27 & 28
December 1-5	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
December 8-12	Boxwood	
December 15-19	Woodland Hills	
December 22-26	Lakeside	Christmas December 25
December 29 - January 2	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	New Years Day January 1

REPARATIONS TOWN HALL

Saturday, November 15 at 2:30-5pm, Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201

The Greenbelt Reparations Commission will share its latest findings and will have breakout sessions. Residents are invited to make recommendations for repair and redress.

SCHROM HILLS PARK FIELD OPEN-PLAY HOURS

The Schrom Hills Park Bermuda Field will be open the remainder of November for open-play during the listed hours:

Monday - Friday

Saturday & Sunday

3-5m

1-5pm

Please note that the field will be closed on Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 27) and any days where weather impacts field conditions. Organized, competitive group play (15 or more participants) is not permitted during open-play hours. The field will be closed from December - February each year. For field rental/permit information please contact Greenbelt Recreation at (301) 397-2200.

WSSC STANDPIPE REHABILITATION MEETING

Friday, November 7 at 2pm, Greenbelt Community Center Room 202

WSSC Water will soon begin rehabilitating one of our existing water storage facilities in your neighborhood — the Greenbelt Standpipe, located at 211 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD.

To help keep the community informed, WSSC Water will hold a virtual Project Outreach Community Meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. During this meeting, WSSC Water staff and our contractor will review the overall project scope, construction timeline, and safety measures, including how demolition and site activities will be managed. You will also receive a postcard invitation with details on how to join the November 12 meeting.

In case you are unable to join the meeting, the presentation materials will be made available by November 14 at www.wsscwater.com/projectmeetings.

FREE SPAY/NEUTER, RABIES SHOTS FOR PETS

Greenbelt residents are eligible for a free spay/neuter procedure and a rabies shot for their pet, through a Maryland Department of Agriculture grant until December 31. Control pet overpopulation and keep pets healthier at no cost.

To apply, contact Greenbelt Animal Services at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-6124. Don't wait and miss out at the end of the year during the busy holidays — make an appointment now. Let's have no unwanted puppies or kittens born in Greenbelt next year, or any year. There are already cats, kittens and dogs and puppies at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter waiting for good homes (like adoptable Nemo here!).

DIABETES 3K/5K RUN OR WALK

Saturday, November 15 from 9am-12pm

Buddy Attick Park Lake, 555 Crescent Road

Dora Kennedy French Immersion school PTA is hosting to help fight against diabetes. Join us in raising awareness and supporting the fight against diabetes. Food trucks, health refreshments, prizes, & more.

Rain date is Sunday, November 16

Register now at www.dkfipta.org/events.

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES *

APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

SENIOR TECH CAFE

Sundays - October 26, November 23 from 1-3 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Room 109, 15 Crescent Road

Whether you're new to computers, iPhone, Android or just need a little guidance, we will do our very best to help! Don't miss this opportunity to have your questions answered. We look forward to helping you get started!

Note: We are not a "Genius Bar" and do not fix devices, but we're more than happy help you learn how to make the most of your technology.

FREE. Drop-in, first come first serve, no registration required, bring a friend!

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov | (240) 542-2056.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

Artist Talk with Julia Gould

Sunday 11/14, 6pm Greenbelt Community Center. Join artist Julia Gould for an informal presentation in conjunction with her current exhibition in the art Gallery (room 112). Free! RSVP: sugeni.us/e4w9

Art Share (meet-up) Friday, 11/14, 7-8pm Greenbelt Community Center. Present and discuss your art in a friendly and supportive environment. FREE. Sign up here for communications about this monthly series: sugeni.us/eZ34

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Youth Musical Registration** Deadline Friday 11/14, greenbeltmd.gov/470/Youth-Musical
- **Fused Glass Ornament** 11/30 11am-12:30pm Greenbelt Community Center Registration required; see page 34 of the [activity guide](#) for details.
- **Sparkle Mart: Greenbelt's Juried Art and Craft Fair** 12/6 10am-5pm; 12/7 10am-4pm, Greenbelt Community Center.
- Sign up to volunteer: <https://sugeni.us/e5FC>

ACTIVE SCAM ALERT

A fake event called "Jingle and Mingle Market Extravaganza" is being promoted for December 6–7 at 25 Crescent Road (Greenbelt Municipal Building). This event is not affiliated with the City of Greenbelt and is a SCAM. Please stay alert—do not send money or payments through digital apps.

Please beware of scammers; the City of Greenbelt will not solicit payment through digital apps.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

Government Shutdown

SHUTDOWN continued from page 1

your control,” she said.

Her confidence in the political system has been shaken. “You think, ‘What’s the point,’” she reflected. “But that’s dangerous because it makes people not want to vote. But I can feel myself losing my confidence in our representatives. ... I see no strategy.”

Getting Benefits

Applying for benefits is not easy, one of the things she would like people to know. “Do people think they’re just handing stuff out? I have a graduate degree and am struggling to figure things out,” she said. She’s applied for SNAP, unemployment and deferments from utility companies. “But none of that’s really come through so the main thing I’ve really benefited from is being able to go to the capital area food pantries,” she said. Many of the food banks say no walkups and she doesn’t drive, so that’s been an additional challenge in accessing resources. She’d been trying to hold out on filing for unemployment but has now applied and now there’s a backlog. She also notes that colleagues considered essential and required to work through the shutdown can’t file for unemployment even as they receive no pay. She didn’t qualify for cash assistance and has taken one of the personal loans offered to federal workers by her bank. However, she’s afraid to use it. If it’s the only money she has access to she doesn’t know how she’ll pay it back if the shutdown goes on too long. She has already made a hardship withdrawal from her Thrift Savings Plan. She needed to pay credit cards and clear debt, and she needs to be able to build up a cash reserve if this is something that federal workers will continually be dealing with, and she believes it is. She thinks the government might shut down again in January. She’s just applied for Medicaid to see what she is able to access, to possibly cut her health insurance costs.

Shutdown Ending

Asked how she feels about the possibility of the shutdown ending as the Senate reaches a deal she says, “I’m kind of struggling with it. I know the Democrats didn’t have the leverage to really pursue this fight but what it hopefully has done is help everyone to see that when placed under pressure the length they were willing to go.” The tax subsidies were going to expire; she wishes there had been work on both sides to address it sooner to avoid this. “I don’t know if we are organized enough as a society to provide support for families to wait it out,” she said of the shutdown. There’s no shame in using benefits, she stresses, but she has struggled. “I know that I can claw myself out of it, but I don’t know if other people standing in this waiting room can,” she says of the experience of applying for benefits, “and that’s what’s hard.” That’s where there’s a loss of confidence that our representatives can govern successfully, she says. She’s hopeful she’ll receive back pay, which is why she hasn’t made a second hardship withdrawal.

She has a graduate degree in public administration and has

always wanted to be in public service. She still wouldn’t want to work for private industry, she says, though she might consider the nonprofit world if she had to. Despite her belief that another furlough period will be on the horizon, she plans to return to her federal service. She considers herself mid-career. “I’ve grown a lot in my career which is awesome, but there were definitely more seasoned folks ... but now with all the Deferred Resignation Plans people like myself with 20-25 years of service are thrust into the senior positions. Maybe the purpose of my remaining career is to help younger people know what my agency was like and what it could be again. My reason for staying is to hopefully get back to the essence of what we once were that I got to experience.”

If the government hadn’t shut down she’d be reviewing proposals for projects she’s no longer certain they can carry out. They’ll have to check and see where things stand after being shuttered and closed up without oversight. “There’s not a lot of transparency or even insight into what’s next,” she said.

Outside this Region

In the capital area, people are living in the midst of the impact of the shutdown and the news about it, but it’s not the case for the rest of the country, she believes. The advantage of this is that her parents in a rural state are shielded from news of what she and her agency are going through. She’s trying to hide it from her aging parents, she says, while also worrying about the system in which today’s children will grow up.

Living with Less ... and More

Meanwhile, she’s having tough conversations with her child about being careful with money. She’s using the local Buy Nothing group more. Christmas is going to be tough, she thinks.

“Living in Greenbelt gives me more hope, though,” she says. If she didn’t live in Greenbelt there would be more than a passing thought of leaving the U.S.

The kinds of things that would be helpful in the community? Rides to food banks, she says. Also, companionship. She attended a gathering on Sunday with many others who are also furloughed. “It was so great to be around people that are in the same boat,” she said. “It doesn’t have to be something fancy,” any chance for community will do.

Data Centers Awareness

This event on Sunday, November 16, 5 to 6:45 p.m. will provide information on data centers, county actions and Maryland legislative proposals. The meeting will be hybrid at the Greenbelt Community Center in Room 109, Senior Game Room or on Zoom at tinyurl.com/DataCenterNov16, Meeting ID: 669 265 1990.

Thanks for the support of Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) in holding this event. There will be a speaker and time for questions.



FOOD NEED continued from page 1

still have access to produce at no cost, but our poundage will be limited to approximately 2,000 pounds per month and be based on availability of produce on the Capital Area Food Bank menu. Historically, The Mobile Market Program provided approximately 6,000 pounds per month,” said Batey.

GAIL’s monthly free produce distribution serves approximately 500 to 600 residents per month. Recently the shutdown, federal funding restrictions and the overall increase in need have impacted the Capital Area Food Bank, which supports the distribution, Batey said.

“We will see a reduction in fresh produce that will be available to us as a standard delivery,” she said. “We will still have produce, but it will not be in the same quantities that we’re used to as a mobile market site.”

Greenbelt families who rely on GAIL will also receive smaller quantities of food. Batey said that families that used to receive multiple bags of produce will now receive just one.

“Historically, families would receive a third of a bag of onions, or half a bag of potatoes, or whatever the item might be,” Batey said. “I would see that [amount now] being reduced, obviously, by more than half.”

Support

Greenbelt Grows is a community initiative that encourages people to grow and share food. It’s a reminder that the community is able to take care of itself in creative ways, according to one of its initiators, Jennifer Dudley.

“Our farmers need us, you know, our neighbors that are recipients of food security benefits on SNAP, they need us,” Dudley said, commenting on how the lack of funding for food-related programs is influencing community members. “A lot of our seniors are hungry, and are quietly not saying anything and going without.”

Goldberg-Strassler is the visionary of Greenbelt’s PORCH program, and he has seen an increase in need as a result of the shutdown. PORCH is a nonprofit that unites neighbors in commu-

nities to fight hunger, according to the organization’s website.

“An individual family, who may have been donating before ... now they’re on the other side. They’re needing to receive food from the food pantry as opposed to donating food to the food pantry,” Goldberg-Strassler said. “It’s come full circle.”

The best thing the Greenbelt community can do right now, according to Dudley, is think about what they can accomplish together.

“All of us are one unfortunate situation away from being in the situation where we need help,” said Dudley, “so I think we need to be looking at what resources we have in Greenbelt and around us in general, and [try to] connect them.”

County Councilmember Ingrid S. Watson will host a food giveaway in the Community Center on Thursday, November 20.

Ashna Balroop is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review.

GODDARD continued from page 1

Meanwhile, at NASA Goddard, over the last week clearing of Building 11 has begun, two sources on the campus told the News Review. Building 11 is where the propulsion systems for spacecraft are designed. Engineers there have been ordered to report to work every day but November 11, Veterans Day, and so far staff are being verbally ordered to interrupt their excepted critical project work during the shutdown to instead dismantle their test labs in Building 11, a source working in that building told us on Tuesday. Our sources requested anonymity for fear of reprisal.

In Building 11, occupants were told some large, expensive and unique pieces of equipment will be moved to other buildings on the campus while other equipment will be divested (excessed or auctioned off in bulk). Like others we’ve spoken to about the moves, they were given less than a week’s notice to label everything, pack and prepare for professional movers.

Disassembling large machinery to be moved would ideally be planned weeks in advance to allow for consultation with manufacturers, arrange for professional rigging staff to lift multi-ton parts

and coordinate, said one engineer. Due to the minimal notice, however, engineers had to prepare large pieces of equipment for what our source calls a “hastily ordered move.” It’s a move he said obliged engineers to perform all equipment disassembly by “guessing,” and thereby “risking functionality of ‘saved’ equipment once relocated,” and involved lifting multi-ton equipment without safety protocols or professional rigging staff.

“Engineers were told to disassemble their labs under an extremely compressed schedule without adequate resources,” complained the Building 11 engineer. They dismantled their labs, preserving what equipment management would allow, but also were ordered to prepare aislesworth of spacecraft components, rooms full of tools and supplies for excess.

They complied under threat of losing more equipment and supplies, our source told the News Review, and in the hope of salvaging the most critical items for current and upcoming flight projects. He describes a scene of dedicated engineers trying to prioritize and work efficiently, but on occasion breaking down into

tears or stunned into silence by the long-term damage they knew they were performing.

“Higher levels of management, career NASA employees, worked alongside the NASA engineers. All under verbal orders and all trying their hardest to salvage what they could and protect taxpayer funded congressionally appropriated space flight projects,” he said.

Some, especially those awaiting the move from Building 11, hoped Lofgren’s letter on Monday might have an impact. However, one scientist told us the move-out at Goddard had resumed early Wednesday morning, following a pause for the federal holiday on Tuesday. Equipment began to be moved out of Building 11 at 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 12, despite its owners and subject matter experts being told the move would begin at 9:30 a.m. he told the News Review. “Equipment has already been damaged,” he reported of the latest move that was underway. A second source confirmed moves were underway at Building 11 Wednesday morning and believed they were deliberately begun before the engineers were told to arrive.



MAD's White Christmas Will Be Staged in Laurel



MAD cast members, from left, Katrina Jackson, Aly Bayens and Taylor Gleason rehearse for White Christmas at Emmanuel Methodist Church in Laurel.

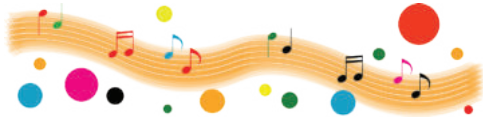
The show must go on, despite the ongoing government shutdown. The Goddard Music & Drama Club (MAD) production of Irving Berlin's White Christmas has moved off-site to the Emmanuel Methodist Church on Scaggsville Road in Laurel. The show will open on Friday, November 14, and there will be 10 performances over three weekends, skipping Thanksgiving weekend and closing on Sunday, December 7.

Directed by Eliot Malumuth, produced by Aly Bayens and with music directed by Susan Breon, Irving Berlin's White Christmas is a holiday romance based on the popular 1954 movie. The show features the songs The Best

Things Happen When You're Dancing, Count Your Blessings, I Love a Piano and, of course, White Christmas.

The show is double-cast, so audience members should check the schedule on the website to see which shows their favorite actors are in. Many Greenbelters are involved, including onstage: Bernard Kelly (Bob), Jon Gardner and Jim Pasquale (Sheldrake) and Donna Peterson (seamstress/cigarette girl); backstage: Joanne Scott (stage manager) and Penny Martin (props); and in the orchestra: Susan Breon (music director), Anne Gardner (violin) and Sara Hindsley (piano).

Visit madtheater.org for more information and to buy tickets.



Beware Holiday Scams

The City of Greenbelt does not request payment via digital apps; beware of scammers soliciting payment for non-existent craft shows. Fraudulent promotions have been reported for a Jingle and Mingle Market Extravaganza at 25 Crescent Road, the Greenbelt Municipal Building on December 6 and 7. There is no event of this name, although these are the dates of the annual Sparkle Mart craft fair at the Community Center. When in doubt, contact ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov to verify craft fair information associated with any City of Greenbelt facility, indoors or outdoors.



New City Council Sworn in



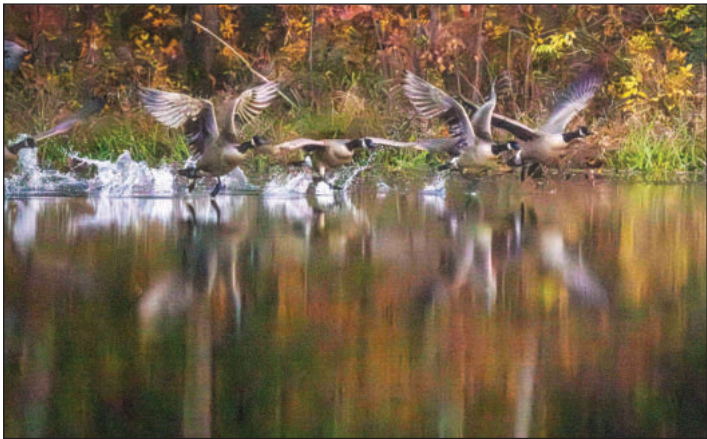
Greenbelt's new city council was sworn in on Monday, November 10 by Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County Mahasin El Amin. Emmett Jordan, the highest vote-getter, was elected mayor by the new council and Kristen Weaver was elected mayor pro tem.

President Roosevelt Visits Greenbelt

This photo shows a visit 90 years ago, on November 13, 1935, by President Franklin Roosevelt to view the site where the federal government was building the new suburban housing development – Greenbelt. He is seated in the front seat of a car examining a model of the yet-to-be-built project with Rexford G. Tugwell, the rural resettlement administrator in the back seat. In the background framing for some of the new housing can be seen. The Associated Press photograph was shared by Mark Hanyok, who purchased it on eBay.



President Franklin Roosevelt visits the site where Greenbelt was being built in 1935.



A gaggle of Canada geese launch themselves from Greenbelt Lake.



Canada geese at Greenbelt Lake at sunset



NASA's MAD Theater Presents:

Irving Berlin's
White Christmas
The Musical
based on the Paramount Movie

3 weekends:
November 14 - December 7

Tickets: \$26/\$24/\$14
Emmanuel United Methodist Church,
10755 Scaggsville Rd, Laurel

www.madtheater.org



Poetry, Song and History Exhibits Commemorate Emancipation Day

by Lois Rosado

On Saturday, November 1, the 161st anniversary of Emancipation Day in Maryland, the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee hosted Kaylee Joge, the 2025 Youth Poet Laureate of Prince George’s County and a junior at Parkdale High School, along with the Prince George’s Community Choral Society.

Program

Poetry speaks directly to the soul, which Joge understands. Her command of language was impressive and her poetry complex. She expressed the concerns of her generation for their future and the hope and desire for humanity to reflect on the damage that human behavior is causing to the planet. Several of her poems focused on the environment, and she lamented about what would be left for her children to see. She stated: “They won’t know flowers, and they won’t know bees. They’ll never know landscapes.” In another poem titled 100 Million Years Ago, she warns about how technology is damaging human connection and interpersonal communication. Joge is an eloquent and gifted poet.

Regina Smith, a member of the Black History and Culture Committee, introduced the Prince George’s County Choral Society



Kaylee Joge recites her poetry at the November 1 program.

and shared with the audience that she had attended one of their concerts and was excited that Greenbelt would now hear this group. Smith then introduced Edryn Coleman, artistic director of the Choral Society, who described the singing society, a very diverse group, who were accompanied by Anthony Pezelle on the piano. He also encouraged members of the audience to join the group, as they are always looking for new members.

The Choral Society sang a variety of spirituals, including His Eye Is on the Sparrow, Be Thou My Vision, All My Trials Soon Be Over and others. At the beginning of the program, they led the audience in singing Lift

Every Voice and Sing. Both the spoken word performance of Kaylee Joge and the songs of the Prince George’s County Choral Society provided the audience with a relaxing and rejuvenating afternoon. Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK) distributed free Black American themed books for all ages which the children and adults present could take home.

On Saturday, November 8, the Sankofa Mobile Museum kiosks were placed in Room 202. About 30 Greenbelt residents availed themselves of the historical modules present on the kiosks. Greenbelters were able to sit and learn history at their leisure and view eight modules. Those who attended praised the exhibits and were able to select and take home free posters.

Emancipation Day programs were sponsored by the Black History and Culture Committee, the Recreation Department, RUAK and the Greenbelt Museum.



Prince George's Choral Society performs at the Emancipation Day event on November 1.

- Photos by Farinaz Firouzi



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

James Gordon, Canadian singer/songwriter, community activist and self-described "song and rants man" brought his Smashing the Oligarchy one-man, original song and oratory show to the Greenbelt Arts Center on Monday, October 13, to a large and appreciative audience.



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GRACE Aids Ukrainians And Others in War Zones

by Frank Gervasi



Orphans in Sumy, Ukraine, enjoy their new custom-made couch.

The Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee (GRACE) started in March 2022, initially to help the over 10 million Ukrainian refugees fleeing the full-scale Russian invasion. Since then and due to relentless daily bombings, over 2.5 million Ukrainian homes have been seriously damaged or destroyed. Vladimir Putin’s Russia attacked both small cities and large in a campaign of terror all Ukrainians have been living through for almost four years now.

After becoming a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, GRACE raised funds and brought three Ukrainian families to apartments we rented in Greenbelt Center, furnished almost entirely with locally donated furniture and household goods. GRACE and other volunteers also taught them English, which they didn’t know on arrival here and helped them get integrated into our society with jobs and services. Hard-working Tetiana Orlova lived on Parkway for about a year and a half. She returned to Ukraine because she felt she could be of more help there.

GRACE’s focus has been Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed and who now live in shelters. Resources are stretched thin there and with the demise of the U.S. Agency for International Development, humanitarian aid everywhere has taken a huge loss. Whatever we can do



The sheltered refugee family poses with Tetiana's mother and daughter (far left and far right, respectively) in their hometown, Mykolaiv, Ukraine. The father holds the Award for Endurance from GRACE that was given along with needed supplies or cash donations.

is appreciated by those whose lives are so hurt by the ongoing aggression and other challenges. One exciting thing GRACE has been doing is helping orphanages in Ukraine. They gave one with 50 children a huge custom couch. To another they provided a high-quality camera – and received charming photos and videos of them learning how to use it. GRACE is in the process of providing therapeutic parallel bars to an orphanage in central Ukraine that houses children with cerebral palsy. A big need there is for electric generators, as the Russians target power stations across the country.



Former Greenbelter and GRACE volunteer Tetiana Orlova, center, with her mother, Xenia, and daughter, Kateryna

We May Be Minstrels At GAC, Friday, Nov.14
On Friday, November 14 at 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Arts Center, We May Be Minstrels presents an evening that sings through America’s tangled story: the pain, the protest, the joy and the hope. American Resilience weaves together folk, cowboy and contemporary songs that speak to the shared struggles and the strength found in community.

Reparations Town Hall Saturday Will Present Findings, Requests

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Saturday, November 15, the Greenbelt Reparations Commission will host a town hall in collaboration with the Piscataway Indian Nation (PIN) and the African-American Redress Network to share their initial findings with community stakeholders and residents. The Reparations Commission reports that several issues have emerged that concern harmed communities, including housing, education, transportation, public safety, recreation and especially senior services and youth development. There are also demands by Indigenous People to have their land returned, relics and artifacts repatriated, and economic independence and sovereignty restored.

The Reparations Commission is entering the recommendation phase and asking the African American community for their input for redress remedies on the topics they have identified through focus group meetings, surveys and interviews. Their recommendations will enable the commission to complete its work, said commission member Lois Rosado.

The PIN’s recommendations are ready to present and will be shared at the town hall on Saturday. The PIN was initially hired by the Reparations Commission as a contractor to review a report and provide an Indigenous voice and perspective. They have, in addition, created a formal report containing reparation requests. The PIN’s summary and recommendations were not part of the contract’s Statement of Work and their recommendations have not been endorsed by the Greenbelt Reparations Commission.

To learn more of the initial findings of the Reparations Commission and the recommendations of the PIN, attend the town hall on Saturday. Participants will be able to join small discussion groups to identify additional issues and offer suggestions for repair and redress to inform final recommendations to the Greenbelt City Council.

The town hall will take place Saturday, November 15, in the Community Center, Room 201 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Rotary Club Hosts Invasive Species Talk

The Greenbelt Rotary Club is sponsoring a talk about invasive plant species in Greenbelt. City Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll will discuss what makes species invasive, invasive species found in Greenbelt and how to identify and remove them, including useful tools and methods. Winter is a good time to address evergreen invasive species, which are easier to identify when nearby plants lose their leaves. Carpenter-Driscoll will speak on Thursday, November 13 at the Community Center, Room 114. Refreshments and conversation will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 7 p.m. presentation.

The club meets every Thursday at the Greenway Center IHOP at 8 a.m., except the second Thursday of the month when club members host this evening speaker series.



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Got Trash? City Pilots New Program to Meet Rising Cost

by John Lippert

Earlier this year the City Council instructed Public Works and the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) to investigate ways to reduce the huge deficit the City incurs for providing trash collection. The group looked at what neighboring cities and counties charge and found all charge more than Greenbelt — in some instances, a lot more.

A Trash Cost Deficit

Public Works calculated that Greenbelt would need to charge each household nearly \$400 a year to break even. The fee is currently \$280 per year. More than \$200,000 was drawn from the general fund over the last two years to fill that gap, money paid through taxes from all Greenbelt taxpayers, including those not receiving City trash collection, such as all apartment dwellers.

Landfill Fees Increase

Green ACES and the Green Team explored ways to reduce the deficit, while seeking fairness and environmental responsibility. The county raised landfill fees, which is the cost of disposing of the trash at the landfill, by 21.5 percent on July 1 this year and will raise it again another seven percent next July 1. The writing is on the wall: the landfill is filling up and landfill fees will continue to rise. Doing nothing to reduce our trash will only cost us more in coming years.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Public Works employees collect trash and recycling on Wednesday morning, November 12.

Save As You Throw

After many City Council meetings, and a town hall meeting, Council approved a new way of paying for trash collection called Save As You Throw. This is a one-year pilot program, beginning January 1, 2026. The results will be evaluated next year to determine how to move forward from that point. This system charges residents based on the amount of trash a household generates. We pay for the amount of electricity we use and water we consume, so why shouldn't we pay for the amount of trash we produce?

This unit-based pricing is common in New England, Minnesota and in cities throughout the world. Results show a 44 percent

reduction of trash going to the landfill, as households get better at recycling, composting food scraps and donating usable items.

A series of articles explaining the program will be offered in coming issues. Readers can find more information on the City website and watch the video at this link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/610/Save-As-You-Throw-SAYT-Program>.

John Lippert is the chair of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES).



PHOTO BY CAMILA LUCHSINGER

Fall at the Lake

PORCH Initiative: More Important Than Ever

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing its program to collect food in the month of November as scheduled below. Food placed on porches by the time listed will be picked up after that time.

Saturday, November 15 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill

Sunday, November 16 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) mem-

bers (including former Woodland Hill donors). Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on November 16 at spreadruak@gmail.com; by 5 p.m. for Eastway.

Sunday, November 23 – by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive; after 6 p.m. for 11-S Ridge Road, 14 & 16 Courts Ridge, 8 & 10 Courts Southway.



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PHOTO BY CARISSA RALEBOVSKY

Members of Scout Pack 202 dig into the News Review during their fall camping trip at Watkins Regional Park.

Maryland Streamlines Benefits Application

The new Maryland Benefits One Application will make it easier to apply for Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Women, Infants, Children (WIC) programming and energy assistance in a single application from a computer or smartphone.

The new streamlined application is available through Maryland Benefits, the State of Maryland’s online benefits access platform. Formerly known as MD THINK, Maryland Ben-

efits reflects collaborative effort between Maryland’s Departments of Information Technology and Health and Human Services to stabilize benefits access.

The improvements also increase convenience for the 1.3 million Marylanders that Maryland Benefits serves, relieving the need to drive between state offices or wait in long lines to complete lengthy separate applications. On average, an application takes 28 minutes to complete. To access the Maryland Benefits One Application, visit Marylandbenefits.gov.

Report Potholes for Fixing

Greenbelt is close enough to the Beltway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway that in some places we can hear their traffic, want to or not. Proximity to these major roadways can be mighty handy for getting to and from Greenbelt. Sometimes, though, they’re unpleasantly bumpy. The latest state budget includes increased funds for the State High-

way Administration (SHA) to repair potholes and resurface state highways.

Does this mean one can call or text after hitting a pothole and get a crew out to fix it? SHA has put out word asking for reports of these sometimes dangerous or damaging inconveniences. Here’s where to make a report: <https://tinyurl.com/mrx3sxum>.

Community Yard Sale

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will hold its last of the year Indoor Community Yard Sale on Saturday, November 22. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 125 Crescent Road. Come help support the fire department and ladies auxiliary. Refreshments and homemade baked goods will be available for purchase. Tables are still available to rent. See the classified ad for details.

Bring family and friends; there will be tables full of treasures for everyone. The hall and parking lot are accessible. Masks are not required but may be worn if desired.



Fun Run with Prizes Nov. 15 at Franklin Park

Georgetown Pain Management will be hosting a Turkey Trot Fun Run at Franklin Park Apartments, Springhill Drive, on Saturday, November 15 at 11 a.m. This community event is designed to encourage healthy, active lifestyles in a fun and family-friendly setting. As a special Thanksgiving gesture, Georgetown Pain is donating Thanksgiving meals – the first 100 participants to cross the finish line will receive a coupon for a free turkey dinner from the Greenbelt Safeway.



School News

Most Greenbelt Schools Earn Three Stars in Report Card

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

“The Maryland Report Card offers one view of student achievement, and together with our recent MCAP results, it tells a story of real progress. These outcomes reflect steady, measurable growth and a district that’s trending up. As we build on this momentum, our work ahead is about accelerating progress for every student,” said Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) Interim Superintendent Dr. Shawn Joseph.

Academic, Climate Gains

Across the county’s schools, math proficiency rose 3.9 percentage points, nearly double the statewide increase of 2.0 points, said a PGCPS statement. Meanwhile English Language Arts (ELA) scores improved by 2.8 points, closely matching the statewide average.

Multilingual learners and students with disabilities achieved consistent gains across both math and ELA, and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools are closing gaps faster than comparable schools statewide, according to the district.

Middle and high schools also recorded notable reductions in chronic absenteeism, while sur-

vey data show that students and staff feel more positive about school climate and engagement districtwide.

Five Stars

Six PGCPS schools earned five stars (two elementary, one high, three combination). They include Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI) in Greenbelt. DKFI’s elementary school was ranked in the 89th percentile and its middle school 99th.

Four Stars

Twenty-six schools (16 elementary, 1 high, 9 combination) earned four stars. They include Eleanor Roosevelt High School, which ranked in the 68th percentile for high schools.

Three Stars

One hundred eleven schools (75 elementary, 13 middle, 14 high, nine combination) earned three stars. These schools include Greenbelt Elementary, which ranked in the 32nd percentile; Magnolia Elementary, which serves Greenbelt students and was ranked in the 11th percentile for elementary schools; and Greenbelt Middle School, which ranked in the 67th percentile for middle schools.

Two Stars

Forty-five schools (23 elementary, 12 middle, eight high, two combination) earned two stars. Springhill Lake Elementary earned this rating and was ranked in the 9th percentile.

One Star

No PGCPS schools earned one star.

How the Ratings Work

School star ratings are based on multiple indicators, including non-academic measures.

Elementary and middle school indicators: Academic Achievement, Academic Progress, Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency and School Quality and Student Success.

High school indicators: Academic Achievement, Graduation Rate, Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency, Readiness for Postsecondary Success and School Quality and Student Success.

Schools earn between one and five stars based on the points earned across these indicators.

State, district and school level results can be viewed on The Maryland Report Card website at reportcard.msde.maryland.gov.

The author has two children who attend Dora Kennedy French Immersion School.



Town Hall Meeting on Reparations

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2:30–5pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201
15 Crescent Rd. Greenbelt, MD

The Greenbelt Reparations Commission will share its latest findings and will have breakout sessions at the Town Hall where residents are invited to make recommendations for repair and redress.

We need your help!

Letters continued from page 2

from our list of good candidates. If you didn't win – at least for those who didn't get my vote – please don't be discouraged. Stay involved with Greenbelt, and maybe run again. Next time the dice may roll another way. Thank you all for your services to our green (and blue) city. Long live BARC, Goddard and Patuxent Wildlife Refuge!

Tina Rhea

Some Thoughts On the Election

I am honored and humbled by the confidence that Greenbelt voters have placed in me. Throughout this campaign, I have listened and learned, and I pledge to ensure our city's resources truly serve every resident. Fiscal responsibility and responsiveness to community needs will always remain my foundation for action.

The election results are not simply a personal victory – they are a reflection of our community's values. By working together, embracing diverse perspectives and never losing sight of what unites us, council will move Greenbelt forward. I am grateful to everyone who participated, supported and volunteered.

I congratulate all of the candidates who ran, and extend my profound gratitude to Rodney Roberts for his many years of invaluable service to the residents of Greenbelt and Prince George's County.

Emmett Jordan

Roberts Has Been An Asset to Council

I feel badly that Rodney Roberts is no longer on the city council. I believe that he has been a tremendous asset for Greenbelt with his service on council. It is important for the city to have someone who knows the basic details of how things work, as he does. Like myself, he grew up in an era when many people worked on their own cars and household machinery to get aging systems to work. I spent days tuning up my cars, so they ran quietly. I would flush their radiators with the engine running to prevent future overheating and make other repairs.

Nowadays, the complexity of our household devices is baffling. I am reluctant to even open my car hood! This complexity makes us easy prey for service organizations to take advantage of our bafflement to overcharge us for their work. For example, my lady friend was twice given an estimate of over \$1,600 for four tires. She finally got a bid of

\$1,000 for the same service.

I suppose that Rodney was not very diplomatic when he chastised Public Works for their near mistake of paying too much for an engine replacement. I regret that he acted harshly toward them. But he saved the city quite a bit of money. Many of us need to watch our spending in these confusing times. I give Rodney credit for noticing and acting on what he perceived as overcharging our city.

Again, I am sorry that Rodney will no longer be on council. My hope is that he continues to be active in city affairs and will not be reluctant to comment on public activity.

Shalom Fisher

Thank You

Thank you, Rodney Roberts, for your 34 years on city council. You were a citizen leader of the Committee to Save the Greenbelt and a council leader in the establishment of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. Your continued advocacy, as both a councilmember and a citizen, for the protection of green spaces within and near the city has been exemplary. You set the bar high for those who will follow you.

Keith Jahoda and Clara Kuehn

Vital City Resource

We write in support of a vital city resource that serves our whole community – the Greenbelt Connection bus. It carries people to important places – doctor's appointments, physical therapy, the pharmacy, the grocery store. It allows people in our community including seniors, disabled people and those who don't have cars to be more independent rather than relying on others, having to pay for more expensive transportation or being homebound. It enables people who use wheelchairs and scooters to move around the city.

With the cuts in WMATA service and the elimination of The Bus 11, the Greenbelt Connection is now more vitally important than ever to Greenbelters who rely on transit services. We have each used this service and are grateful it exists and appreciative of its caring and friendly driver Brian and the staff who schedule rides. Greenbelt Connection is one of the many things that makes Greenbelt great, and we hope that service will expand in the future.

Cynthia Newcomer, Anna Socrates and Stephen Holland

Grateful for Donations From our Community

The St. Hugh Ladies of Charity who coordinate the food pantry want to thank everyone who has responded to the increased need for food. The financial donations, Co-op Grocery Store gift cards and nonperishable food have been remarkable. The Scouts collected over 300 pounds of food this past Saturday. The St. Hugh Pantry remains available to any Greenbelt resident in need.

Mary Ann Tretler, President, Ladies of Charity

Appointments Available At Local Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is hosting a blood donation drive at the Community Center on Friday, November 14. Appointments are available for whole blood donations from 1:15 to 4 p.m. Power red donations, but only from type O donors, are available at 2, 3 and 4 p.m.

The need for blood is unceasing; donors are literal life savers. Schedule an appointment online at redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Obituaries from p.4

the courageous journey to Chicago, Ill., in 1970. With an insatiable thirst for knowledge, she earned a master's degree in nuclear physics from the University of Warsaw in 1967 and a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1981. Throughout her illustrious career, she held a faculty position at the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she held countless honors and awards, taught future medical students and physicians and worked tirelessly in the field of radiation oncology.

Elizabeth married Robert Zdzislaw Kubiczek and embraced the joy of motherhood with the birth of their daughter.

Her professional affiliations included memberships in Phi Beta Kappa, Radiation Research Society, Women in Radiation Research and the European Society for Radiation Research. She was also a member of the Our Lady Queen of Poland Catholic Church.

Elizabeth's love for life was evident in her varied interests. An avid reader, she loved mysteries, most notably those of Agatha Christie, whose books she learned English from after arriving in the United States. Her musical taste spanned from Elvis and the Beatles to classical music. Among her favorite television shows was Masterpiece Theater, and she enjoyed solving the Washington Post crossword puzzle every day.

Elizabeth appreciated Polish art and works by Indigenous people, and she cherished listening to and attending performances of opera and the ballet, one of her favorite spectacles. Her passions included gardening, which she expressed through a beautifully designed English cottage garden that was enjoyed by all and featured on the Greenbelt Garden Walking Tour. She often sought respite at her favorite local spots: Greenbelt Cinema, New Deal Café and Cedars of Lebanon. As for vacations, Elizabeth held a special place in her heart for the Southwest.

Elizabeth was the beloved mother of Eva Kubiczek-Love; cherished grandmother to Liam Wade, Andrzej Love and Cole Wade; and adored sister of Ryszard Balcer. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert Zdzislaw Kubiczek; her father, Franciszek Balcer; and her mother, Janina Jozefa Krzemien.

Elizabeth's greatest accomplishment, as she would often say, was becoming a U.S. citizen. Her legacy continues through her invaluable lessons in radiation biology and her deep appreciation for beauty. One of the greatest lessons she shared was the importance of perseverance, critical thinking and the desire to enrich the lives of others. Elizabeth's indomitable spirit and her ability to see beauty in the world around her will continue to inspire all who were fortunate to have known her.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred November 3-9, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported two deaths, one sexual assault, one mental health diversion and four domestic incidents, three leading to arrest.

On November 4 near 7722 Hanover Parkway, a child missed school on multiple dates, and a Child in Need of Supervision report was completed.

A bicycle found near 25 Crescent Road was taken to the bike garage for safekeeping.

Assaults

On November 7 at 11:45 a.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man got into a verbal altercation with his manager, who pushed him. He was advised regarding charges.

On November 8 at 8:53 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man was jumped by five or six juveniles who fled; he was taken to a hospital for his injuries.

Break-in

On November 3 at 9:51 a.m. near 7701 Greenbelt Road, an employee noticed a hole in the wall. Someone had gotten in through the hole, and also damaged one of the office door handles trying to get in.

Disorderly

On November 7 at 8:17 p.m. near 6040 Greenbelt Road, an employee reported that a customer had been at the location for four hours and was refusing to leave; the customer was banned and escorted off the property.

DUI Arrest

On November 5 at 1:08 a.m. near 6220 Breezewood Drive, officers stopped a vehicle that drove through a stop sign. The driver smelled heavily of alcohol, was driving on a suspended license, and had an open warrant.

Firearm Arrest

On November 4 at 2:29 a.m. near 219 Lakeside Drive, an officer saw a car parked illegally. Two individuals quickly exited the vehicle, leaving part of a firearm by the seat, loaded with one round in the chamber. The firearm had been reported stolen. The driver was arrested and transported to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Fraud

On November 8 near 7429 Morrison Drive, a man reported that someone used his identity in Florida, and opened a credit card account in his name.

Theft and Shoplifting

On November 3 at 11:09 a.m. near 7571 Greenbelt Road, a car pulled into the loading area, thieves grabbed two boxes and fled; at 2:08 p.m. near 7480 Greenway Center Drive, a hotel guest left her bag unattended in the lobby for several hours, and upon her return, her wallet, containing her credit and debit cards, was missing.

On November 4 at 11:18 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a subject was caught after stealing items, banned from the property and issued a criminal citation; at 1:20 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, two men wearing masks stole merchandise and fled; at 1:38 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a woman shoplifted and officers caught her in the parking lot trying to flee.

On November 6 at 5:35 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a

repeat shoplifter was caught, charged and banned.

On November 8 at 4:29 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a boy stole candy and fled.

Threats

On November 7 at 4:09 p.m. near 5717 Greenbelt Metro Drive, a taxi driver was threatened by another driver.

Trespassing with Arrest

On November 4 at 12:21 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a known trespasser was found inside the mall. During a search, a small glass pipe was found, consistent with drug paraphernalia.

Vandalism

On November 3 at 12:08 p.m. near 9154 Springhill Court, an empty unit had a broken door handle and a balcony door open; maintenance fixed the door.

On November 8 at 2:25 p.m. near 6008 Springhill Drive, youths playing near the building threw a rock and damaged a bedroom window; maintenance was notified.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Five vehicles were stolen: on November 3 near 6101 Breezewood Court, a white Toyota RAV4 (Md. T2488509) and near 9330 Edmonston Road, a blue 2006 Ford Econoline (Md. 2FB4517); on November 5 near 6102 Breezewood Court, a gray 2019 Infiniti QX60 (Md. 9FD2664); on November 6 near 6200 Breezewood Drive, a white Honda Civic (Md. 4EW1706) and on November 7 near 6200 Springhill Drive, a black 2014 Honda Accord (Md. 8GL1156).

Stolen Vehicle Recovered

On November 6 near 9131 Edmonston Terrace, an officer located a Honda Civic that had been reported stolen in Prince George's County.

Attempted Theft of Auto

On November 5 near Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway, a 2024 Honda Civic was broken into and the ignition was damaged.

On November 6 near 5901 Cherrywood Lane, someone broke into a vehicle and damaged the driver's side door lock.

Theft from Auto

Airbags were stolen from six Hondas: on November 3 near 5909 Cherrywood Terrace from a 2026 Accord; on November 5 near 7812 Hanover Parkway from a 2024 Civic, near 7726 Hanover Parkway from a 2024 Civic, near 6102 Breezewood Court from a Civic; and on November 6 near 6025 Springhill Drive from a 2026 Civic.

Tags were stolen from three vehicles: November 4 near 9012 Breezewood Terrace, November 6 near 5833 Cherrywood Terrace and November 7 near 227 Lakeside Drive.

On November 7, all four wheels were stolen from two Hondas: a Civic near 6401 Golden Triangle Drive and a 2023 Accord near 7400 Greenway Center Drive.

On November 5 near 7903 Candlewood Place, items were missing from a 2012 Chevy Tahoe, possibly left unlocked.

On November 7 at 12:19 p.m. near 6460 Capitol Drive, a man saw two men flee in a white Toyota Avalon after breaking into his car and leaving a broken window.

Vandalism to Auto

On November 7 at 11:02 a.m. near 7808 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle had a white paint scratch on the door.



Arrest Made in Hit-and-Run That Killed Cyclist Lisa Martin

On October 8, the U.S. Park Police responded to a report of a hit-and-run involving bicyclists on Soil Conservation Road at Beaver Dam Road within the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. Two bicyclists were struck. Lisa Martin, 50, of Riverdale was pronounced dead at the scene. The second bicyclist was taken to a nearby hospital with injuries that were not life-threatening.

Following a thorough investigation and with assistance

from the public, the suspect vehicle was located. On October 31, Maboh Ndimah of Maryland was arrested and charged in connection with this incident. Ndimah, 40, has several open traffic citations from Upper Marlboro District Court this year. The investigation into the hit-and-run is ongoing.

The U.S. Park Police thanks the community for its cooperation and support in helping bring this case to a resolution.

Greenway Shooting Near Bus Stop: Two Youths Arrested

Greenbelt police officers have arrested two male youths for the October 28 shooting at Greenway Center (see the October 30 issue). In that incident, shortly after 4 p.m. close to the shopping center, witnesses reported that one juvenile male opened fire near a bus stop and then another juvenile male also fired a gun. No injuries were reported.

On the morning of November 6, in the 8200 block of Canning Terrace, the Greenbelt Police Emergency Response Team (ERT) and detectives executed a search warrant leading to the arrest of a juvenile male. During the search,

additional evidence was collected. Fortunately, no one was injured during this operation, and the juvenile was safely transported to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

On the evening of November 6, a second juvenile male was arrested in connection with the same shooting. This youth also had an outstanding warrant for his involvement in an armed robbery that took place on October 4. He was safely transported to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections, where he has been charged as an adult with multiple crimes.

Officer Recognition



Officer Smith (far right) has been promoted to the rank of Police Officer First Class (PFC). PFC Glenn Smith, along with PFC Daniel Dessalines (center), also received letters of commendation for their efforts in reuniting a missing senior with dementia and an autistic child with their families. They are pictured here with Deputy Chief of Police Tim White (left).

PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

City Notes

To support CARES holiday donation drive, Public Information and Finance built a webpage and Economic Development notified 421 businesses of Greenbelt CARES holiday donation drive.

Economic Development attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting featuring Senator Angela Alsobrooks, addressed a Greenbelt Business Alliance meeting and visited six businesses.

Legislative attended the Four Cities Coalition meeting and Planning approved 12 permits and inspected 24 rentals.

Animal Shelter residents are seven cats, seven kittens and four dogs, pending five adoptions; 20 Dog Park permits and 70 spay/neuter vouchers have been issued.

Ballfields/Parks installed backstop fencing on Braden Field and pavilions at Greenbelt Station. Environmental removed paint cans illegally dumped at the recycling center and Streets crews removed campaign signs.

At the Fitness Center, contractors adjusted fitness machines and completed hot-tub tiling.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted Learn2Earn and Therapeutic Recreation took seniors to Marietta House Museum.

During October, CARES counseled 170 individuals and educated 18 tutees, 14 GED aspirants, five workforce trainees and 13 ESOL learners.

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YARD/MOVING SALES

INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE, November 22, 2025, 9am - 1 pm @ GVFD, 125 Crescent Road. Table reservations: One \$15, Two \$25. For further information, please call Kathy @ 301-351-7496 (cell #). Food and beverage available for purchase.

FRUIT SALE – Glenn Dale Volunteer Fire Association's 2025 Fruit Sale, December 2-5, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd., Glenn Dale



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BOXED: \$11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Reel and Meal: Nonviolent Resistance

In a time filled with conflict, protests and political upheaval, the film *How to Start a Revolution* shows how real change can happen without violence. It features the work of Gene Sharp, whose ideas have inspired movements from Serbia's nonviolent overthrow of Milosevic to the student-led protests in Tahrir Square during the Arab Spring. The film also depicts his influence on movements in South Korea, the Philippines and Eastern Europe. Success depends on careful planning, unity among participants and persistence.

Sharp documented 198 distinct nonviolent tactics, categorized into: protest and persuasion (marches, vigils, leafleting), non-cooperation (boycotts, strikes, refusal to obey laws) and intervention to disrupt the functioning of an oppressive system while minimizing bloodshed. For Sharp, nonviolent resistance works best when it is strategic, disciplined and widespread, and not spontaneous or disorganized. Success depends on careful planning, unity among participants, and persistence. The film suggests that such tactics that challenged entrenched power, toppled dictators, and made real change across the world are ones we can use here at home. Anyone concerned about civic engagement will find the documentary insightful.

The film will be shown at the New Deal Café on Monday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. Note that the start time of 6:30 p.m. is earlier than usual. Its organizers are The Utopia Film Festival and the Prince George's County Peace & Justice Coalition, which presents this month's program. While the film is free, the Café has a dinner menu with several plant-based options available for purchase. The screenings are hybrid – in-person at the Café and via Zoom. Those unable to attend in-person can register to watch via Zoom at tinyurl.com/ReelMealNov2025.

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Holiday Lights
Sunday, November 30 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center Gym. Enjoy festive favorites, winter classics and a touch of holiday cheer.

Tree Lighting Ceremony
Friday, December 5 at 7 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. Join in outdoors to hear the Greenbelt Brass Choir perform seasonal tunes to welcome the lighting of the city tree.

Festival of Lights Concert
Monday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington, D.C., Temple Visitors' Center (Mormon Visitors' Center). Experience the magic of music and lights in this inspiring holiday event.

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

Community Church: Free Social Supper

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, will host a free soup, salad and desert supper on Monday, November 17 starting at 6:30 p.m. The evening is a gathering for anyone who is experiencing tough times with the shutdown, or simply wanting a connection. All are welcome. The church is located at 1 Hillside Road. For questions email office@greenbeltucc.org.

FIREFIGHTERS continued from page 1

progress within the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department. Most of the vacant positions have now been filled with new recruits who are completing their training and field experience through the county's fire academy and fire stations. As these recruits become fully certified and field-ready, they will be assigned to stations throughout the county, including Greenbelt and Berwyn Heights."

Last summer, firefighters were removed from stations in Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, Bowie-Belair and Bunker Hill in what was initially called a summer staffing plan. "Beginning in November 2025, the Berwyn Heights Fire Station will receive a six-person day work crew (7 a.m. to 3 p.m.) to staff both a fire apparatus and an ambulance. This marks an important step in improving daytime coverage and emergency readiness for our area," said Salmerón. As we reported on January 8 this year, since 24 career firefighters were pulled from Greenbelt's station, Berwyn Heights had become the most frequent responder to Greenbelt calls, thus their full staffing this month is additional cause for celebration in Greenbelt as well as neighboring areas that benefit from their coverage.

The return to a full complement of six career firefighters at the Berwyn Heights station

is also a hopeful step under the new Prince George's County Fire Department leadership. Prince George's County Fire Department's new Fire Chief Thelmetria Michaelides was sworn in on October 21 after her appointment by County Executive Aisha Braveboy. Former Fire Chief Tiffany Green was appointed assistant deputy chief administrative officer for Public Safety and Homeland Security but later was suspended pending an investigation relating to her time as Fire Chief.

"The Greenbelt Fire Station is expected to return to full 24/7 staffing around February 2026, once the department's new firefighters and EMTs complete the training necessary to operate independently. This progress reflects the strong leadership and transparent communication under Fire Chief Michaelides, which has been a welcome change and a clear improvement over past staffing projections," said Salmerón.

"The City will continue to work closely with the Fire/EMS Department and the County Executive's Office to ensure that public safety remains at the forefront of county priorities. I am confident that, through collaboration and accountability, we will see full restoration of staffing at the Greenbelt Fire Station in early 2026."

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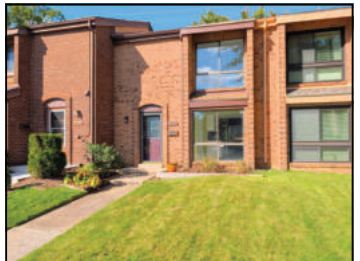


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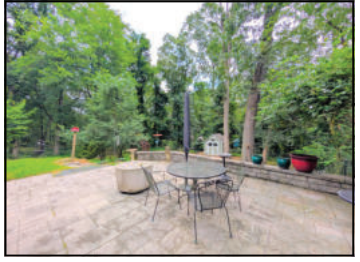
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PHOTO BY CARLYE BROOKS OF THE COMPOST CREW STAFF

Greenbelt resident Erik Blaufuss returns pumpkins for recycling at the pumpkin recycling event sponsored by Compost Crew on November 8 at its Compost Outpost facility. Compost Crew is the contractor for Greenbelt’s curbside food scrap composting program. Residents may register to participate in the program at compostcrew.com/greenbelt.



PHOTO BY CAMILA LUCHSINGER

The lakeside path was haunted on Halloween.

My Point of View

Kyla’s Dog Day

by Kyla Hanington

As anyone who has ever met both my husband Dan and me knows, Dan is pretty great and I married way out of my league. As in all marriages, we have our little negotiations. Dan doesn’t want to share a house with a dog, I want to share a house with Dan, therefore, I will not have a dog. But then my co-worker Andrea showed me a picture of a puppy that needs adopting and that threw the very foundation of my marriage into question.

I mean, Dan *is* pretty great, but do I want a dog?

In order to answer this important question, my marriage hanging in the balance, I packed up my camera and left the house to meet some dogs. First stop, with my friend Vera and her granddaughter Alice, was the Greenbelt Dog Park. I confess to never having been there before, what with not having a dog and all. I was delighted to be greeted upon arrival by Mason, a sable rough collie, and his human Melissa. Mason is a retired working dog, Melissa told us. I made a check in my mental list. Husband: retired. Dog: also retired. Hmm. Working this out might prove to be more difficult than I expected.

Alice noted the absence of available water for dogs (and humans) at the dog park. “We should write that for the News Review,” she told me. “There should be water for pups. Pups and people.” I agreed there should be water provided for dogs, and then we thought about the café we could start, called Pups and People, and the kind of food we would serve. Human cookies shaped like dog biscuits. Dog biscuits also shaped like dog biscuits.

Later we went back to Vera’s house where I played with her dog, Macy, and Alice’s family dog, Otto. Otto and I had a long discussion about dog ownership and the benefits of getting to pat, walk and feed dogs regularly. I felt like we made a real connection until Herb, Vera’s husband, explained that Otto was only looking at me like that because he thought I was going to give him snacks. Harsh.

On the way home, I met my neighbors Scott and Kelly Boardsen and their two Springer Spaniels, Archie and Freddie (as in, Mercury). I explained I was trying to decide if I wanted to have a dog or a husband and Kelly immediately handed me Archie’s leash. (Don’t worry, it was a joke! We laughed! I handed the leash back!)

Dan had been out of town so my arrival home from the dog adventure was the first time we’d seen each other in a couple of days. I was pleased to tell him the results of my findings. I chose him over dogs. “Dogs are pretty great,” I said, “but they make my hands feel dirty.”

Dan was appropriately touched by this romantic declaration of my commitment to him. “Wow,” he said flatly, apparently too overcome to have much expression.

I nodded happily and snuggled in close. Dogs are pretty great, but even they can’t hold a candle to Dan Hamlin. And besides, it turns out you can just go up to people and say, “Hey, can I



PHOTO BY VERA REED

Otto makes a compelling argument for Dog v. Dan.



PHOTO BY KYLA HANINGTON

Mason, retired and enjoying it

pat your dog?” Oftentimes, the answer is yes. So if you’re like me, and not in a place for dog ownership because you love your husband and/or your hands feel dirty after too much dog time, you can still love on dogs that

other people take care of. Talk about gaming the system. And if you’re a dog owner and you see a woman approaching you eagerly with a reluctant man by her side, it’s us. I would love to pat your dog. Dan would rather not.

Dog Park and Animal Shelter Info

Greenbelt is the only municipality in the county with its own shelter and adoption program. Greenbelt Animal Services hosts locally-rescued animals in six kennels, a play yard and two cat rooms. Check the Animal Shelter’s Facebook page and, to make an appointment to visit adoptable animals, call 301-474-6124. Donations of specified items are welcome.

The Greenbelt Dog Park, open from dawn to dusk, was established to help promote responsible pet ownership and enhance canine training, behavior and safe exercise. The facility is the first of its kind in Maryland. To apply for the required permit (which costs \$10 for residents or \$30 for non-residents), make an appointment with Animal Services at 301-474-6124.



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